

NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

TERMS: Cash in advance. Money sent by mail will be at the risk of the sender. None but bank bills current in New York taken.

THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the year, except on Sundays and public holidays.

Subscription price, \$14. The California Edition, on the 1st, 11th and 21st of each month, at six cents per copy, or \$3 per annum.

Advertisements, to a limited number, will be inserted in the WEEKLY HERALD, the European and California Editions.

Volume XXXI. No. 76

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE. Broadway, near Broome street.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

LUCY RUSHTON'S NEW YORK THEATRE. No. 725 and 726 Broadway.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

WOOD'S THEATRE. Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

SAN FRANCISCO MINISTERS. 235 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE. 201 Bowery.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

GEORGE CHRISTY'S OLD SCHOOL OF MINISTERS. 235 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

BRYANT'S MINISTERS. Mechanics Hall, 472 Broadway.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

ROOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE. Broadway, near Broome street.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY. 618 Broadway.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

BRADY'S GALLERY. 135 Broadway, corner of Third street.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

DERBY FINE ARTS GALLERY. 625 Broadway.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

FINE ARTS INSTITUTE. 625 Broadway.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

HOPE CHAPLIN. 720 Broadway.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

SEVENTH REGIMENT ARMORY. Tompkins Market.—The Victim of the Whisk. Malice at 8 o'clock.—The Victim.

COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT TO U. S. GRAVELLA.

New York, Saturday, March 17, 1866.

THE NEWS.

CANADA.

The Canadians were yesterday rejoiced by the report that Secretary Seward has promised that there shall be no violation of our neutrality by the invasion of the province from this country by armed Fenians. It is now apprehended that an attack from Detroit will be made by Fenians to-day during the St. Patrick celebration. The intended parade in Montreal has been forbidden by the authorities. Volunteering and all the other provincial operations for defence continue, and it is said that ten thousand troops from England are shortly expected to arrive. The British West India squadron has been ordered to sail for Halifax, with all the disposable troops in the West Indies.

The Canadian Reciprocity treaty, which has regulated trade for a dozen years past between this country and Canada, greatly to the advantage of the commercial community of that province, terminates to-day, in accordance with the notice given by our government a year ago. This will be a severe blow to the provinces, and in order in some measure to repair the damages which it will inflict their authorities are prosecuting with great energy their efforts to effect a confederation of all the British North American colonies, and have deputed commissions to the West Indies and South America to endeavor to concert resolutions for increased trade with those regions. In another portion of our present issue we present an extended and interesting collection of facts and statements showing what the Canadians propose to do in order to enable them to survive the shock of the treaty's expiration.

CONGRESS.

Among the petitions presented in the Senate yesterday was one from the New York and Brooklyn dressmakers for a reduction of the tax on their business. Resolutions were introduced providing that any and every person, or their widows or heirs, shall not be deprived of pension on account of holding office under government, the yearly compensation of which is not over eight hundred dollars, and appropriating fifty thousand dollars to publish the Medical and Surgical History of the late war. The bill to reorganize the national judiciary was reported back, with a number of amendments, from the Judiciary Committee. A bill fixing the salaries of the United States district judges was introduced and referred to the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Stewart, of Nevada, introduced a preamble and resolutions prescribing conditions for the admission of the excluded Southern representatives, which, after some debate during which Mr. Sumner welcomed Mr. Stewart "with open arms" to the ranks of the advocates of negro suffrage, were ordered to be printed and referred to the Reconstruction Committee. The resolutions suggest the adoption by the States lately in rebellion of amendments to their constitutions giving the negroes the same civil and political privileges as the whites, including the right to vote, and repudiating all debts and claims for slaves emancipated, and request the adoption of similar measures by the Legislatures of the other States. They also propose that when these terms shall have been complied with, a general amnesty relative to those engaged in the rebellion shall be declared. The Deficiency Appropriation bill was passed, and the Naval Appropriation bill was considered for some time, but was not finally acted upon. The Senate adjourned till Monday.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A proposition was offered, for the appointment of a committee to investigate the differences between the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller of the Currency. Bills were introduced and referred to authorize the establishment of a mail steamship line between Charleston and Liverpool and to establish a post route from Idaho City to Rocky Bay, in Idaho Territory. The Committee on Indian Affairs were directed to report on the expediency of concentrating the different tribes of Dakota or Sioux Indians on one reservation. The House and Senate Army bills were both taken up, and after the former had been ordered to be printed and the latter had been read twice, both were recommitted to the Military Committee. The bills for the construction of custom houses at Jersey City, N. J., and Cairo, Ill., were reported back adversely from the Committee on Commerce, and laid on the table. After the transaction of some other business not of particular importance, the Loan bill was again taken up, and its consideration occupied a great part of both the day and evening sessions. Several amendments were offered, some of which were adopted and others rejected. Finally a vote was reached on the bill itself, as amended, and it was defeated, there being sixty-eight negative votes against it as in the affirmative. Pending a motion to reconsider, the House adjourned.

THE LEGISLATURE.

In the State Senate yesterday bills were introduced, authorizing the selection of a site for a new State prison in either Broome, Tioga, Chemung, Steuben or Allegany county; empowering the Park Commissioners of this city to close existing streets and open new ones in that part of the city between Seventy-second and 156th streets and Eighth avenue and the North river, appropriating one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to continue im-

provement of Hudson river navigation, and authorizing the establishment of additional normal schools. A number of local and private bills were reported from committees, and some other matters of minor interest received attention, after which the Senate adjourned till Monday.

In the Assembly a few bills were passed, including those amending the charter of the East India Telegraph Company and requiring our Park Commissioners to construct a stone stairway at the junction of Fifth avenue and Eighty-sixth street. Some bills of no general importance were ordered to third reading, and several were reported from committees. Among the latter were those to incorporate the New York Floating Dry Dock Company and for refunding to certain banks and insurance companies of this city State taxes collected in 1863 and 1864 on national securities exempt from taxation. The Assembly also adjourned till Monday.

THE CITY.

Preparations have been made by the Irishmen of the metropolis and surrounding cities for the demonstration to-day in honor of Ireland's patron saint, and the occasion will no doubt be celebrated by them in a spirited and creditable manner. In this city there will be a large procession, composed of both civil and military organizations. The line will be formed in East Broadway at ten o'clock, and Broadway and some of the principal thoroughfares will be included in the route of march, of which full particulars, as well as of all matters pertaining to the display, are given in another portion of this morning's HERALD. Besides the procession there will be various other suitable observances. A solemn pontifical high mass will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral by Archbishop McCloskey, and there will be appropriate services in several other Catholic churches. In Brooklyn the day will be similarly observed.

At the meeting of the Board of Councilmen yesterday, the Tax Levy, as amended by the Aldermen, was read and held over, as was also a resolution directing the Corporation Council to stay proceedings relative to the widening of Ann street, until otherwise ordered. The Corporation Council was directed to appeal from the decision of the Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals, in the matter of a mandamus against the Common Council for the creation of market stock to erect a market in the eighteenth ward. An ordinance providing that the owners of ferry boats shall provide gates which, when closed, will prevent any person from passing to or from a boat, and that the boats shall remain fastened while the gates are open, was adopted.

The special committee of the Board of Supervisors appointed to investigate the charges of corruption and fraud in the erection of the new Court House, continued their work yesterday. There were three witnesses examined, but the evidence was of the usual character. The counsel for the prosecution announced his case closed, and Supervisor Fox adjourned the committee till Monday next, at the request of the counsel for the defence.

The Board of Health met yesterday afternoon, and the standing committees were appointed. The suspension of four different bones, fat and oil boiling establishments in this city was ordered by the Commissioners, as being public nuisances. Two hundred and eighteen carcasses of unwholesome meat were seized by the Sanitary police yesterday and disposed of at the offal dock.

The case of the United States against certain distillers of this city, charged with bribing a detective revenue officer, with intent to defraud the government, was yesterday before United States Commissioner Betts. A great deal of interest is manifested in the case, the Revenue Department being largely and ably represented. The defendants, by advice of counsel, were not present, it being the intention of the latter to confine the proceedings to a motion of adjournment. Upon this motion a speedy trial followed between counsel on either side. Ultimately the case was adjourned till the 22d inst.

In the United States Circuit Court yesterday, before Judge Shipman, Charles Teltgen was tried and found guilty of having in his possession a quantity of counterfeit currency. It appeared that the accused kept a small grocery, and was charged with passing spurious currency to his customers for some time before being detected. The proofs of guilt were clear; but in consequence of the prisoner's previous good character, the jury, in returning a verdict of guilty, strongly recommended him to the clemency of the Court. Judge Shipman sentenced him to two years' imprisonment, with hard labor, in the State Prison.

An action for the recovery of naval prize money was tried in the Supreme Court, Part 1, before Judge Mason, yesterday. The plaintiff was William Day, formerly a seaman on board the United States gunboat Somerset, and the defendants Thomas L. Braynard and partner, claim agents. It appeared in evidence that the latter advanced three hundred dollars on a prize claim of the former, which ultimately proved to be worth six hundred and eighty dollars. Payment of the balance was denied, on the ground that Day had signed a receipt transferring his entire claim to the agents. The jury gave a verdict for plaintiff for three hundred and ten dollars, the full amount claimed.

An application was yesterday made in the Supreme Court, Chambers, before Judge Barnard, for an injunction restraining the landlord of the building known as the City Assembly Rooms, lately destroyed by fire, from knocking down the ruins. This application is made on behalf of the tenants, who claim that a portion of the premises is not wholly destroyed, and that by the terms of their leases the landlord is bound to put the place again in repair, payment of rent to be suspended, and their leases to hold good in the meanwhile. The motion will be argued at length this morning.

Judge Ingraham has denied the motion made to discharge the attachment issued against the property of James T. Lloyd, the map publisher, on complaint of Patrick O'Brien, who claims to be a large creditor of the defendant.

The jury in the case of Lawrence Burke against the Broadway and Seventh Avenue Railroad Company, in which the complainant sued for loss of services of his son, a child six years old, who was run over in Thompson street, and had his leg amputated, yesterday brought in a verdict for plaintiff for five hundred dollars.

The Chambers and Special Term of the Court of Common Pleas will be closed to-day. No business will be transacted until Monday in any branch of the court.

An important motion was made at the Chambers of the Superior Court yesterday, involving the right of parties to place the names of hotels on their carriages. An injunction to restrain a man named Lamb from putting the name of "Preston House" on his carriages was obtained five days ago, and yesterday a motion to dissolve the same was made. The matter was adjourned to enable the parties to procure additional affidavits.

Spencer Potius was fully committed for trial yesterday on a charge of larceny, for having in his possession, as alleged, a number of five hundred dollar bonds, said to have been stolen from Mr. Louis Seibels, of Philadelphia. The accused is held to bail in the sum of five thousand dollars.

William O'Neill, Van Rensselaer Bernhardt, Mary Kane and Ellen Maher, were yesterday committed for trial by Justice Dowling on charge of having, on the 8th inst., committed a robbery at No. 8 Varick street, and then, to cover up the theft, set fire to the premises.

A large and demonstrative assemblage gathered last evening at Clinton Hall, where an "Anti Fenian meeting" was being held. The sentiments uttered found passionate response in the spectators, and before the gathering dispersed an "Anti Fenian League" was partly organized. As a disturbance was expected, a large body of police was held in reserve, and several sections were present in the hall. Perfect order, however, was maintained.

At the headquarters of both of the wings of Fenianism yesterday business continued to progress in its customary vigorous manner, and there was no diminution in the usual influx of funds. The work of organizing new circles still goes on, and a number of meetings were held in different parts of the city last night.

The final report of the New England Soldiers' Relief Association in this city, which was established in April, 1862, has been published. Among the interesting items of this report is the statement that during the existence of the institution it lodged, fed, clothed and aided over eighty-six thousand sick and wounded soldiers belonging to nearly every State in the Union.

The Italian line steamship City of New York, Captain Leitch, leaves pier 24, North river, to-day at noon for Queenstown and Liverpool. The steamship Borussia, Captain Schwensen, for Southampton and Hamburg, also sails at noon to-day. The mails for the above steamers will close at the Post Office at half-past ten A. M.

The fine new steamship Star of the Union, Captain Blanchard, belonging to H. B. Cronwell & Co's line, will sail from pier No. 9 North river at three P. M. to-day for New Orleans direct. Mails close at the Post Office at the usual hour.

The stock market was firm on the whole, but somewhat irregular, yesterday. Governments were firm. Gold weakened from 131 to 130 1/2 at the close.

Trade was very dull yesterday, and prices current showed no improvement, as a general thing; but they are gradually settling down to the basis of gold at about

130. Dry goods were dull, and nearly nominal. Cotton, groceries and petroleum were dull and nominal. On 'Change flour was dull, and common grades were lower. Wheat was lower. Corn was more active and firmer. Pork was dull. Lard was in good demand and firmer. Whiskey was nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Democratic State Convention of Indiana was held at Indianapolis on Thursday, and was largely attended. The highest office to be filled at the ensuing Indiana election is that of Secretary of State, and for this position the convention nominated General M. D. Menden.

Candidates for other offices were also chosen. The resolutions adopted endorse the President's reconstruction policy and veto of the Freedmen's Bureau bill, condemn Congress for excluding the Southern representatives and for its course generally, oppose secession, the payment of the rebel debts, negro suffrage, protective tariffs and prohibitory liquor and Sunday laws, condemn the "frauds committed by abolition State and federal officials," favor religious toleration and the eight-hour labor system, and express thanks to the national soldiers.

It is reported that about forty thousand colored troops now stationed in the South will be mustered out of service within the next two weeks, including three thousand in South Carolina.

Additional particulars regarding the recent revolutionary outbreak in Cuba and the cargo of Africans captured off the coast of the island, alluded to in our issue of yesterday, have been received by the steamer Corica, which left Havana some hours after the departure of the Morro Castle, on the 10th inst., and arrived here yesterday. The republican demonstration appears to have been a movement of little consequence politically.

Of the captured Africans, numbering in all, it is said, fifteen hundred, seven hundred had been landed at San Antonio, and sold to a prominent planter at the rate of two hundred and twenty-five dollars each. In connection with the privilege recently granted by the State of Florida to an American company to land and extend telegraphic cables from the Florida coast to Cuba, it is stated that the exclusive right to land telegraphic cables on the Cuban coast was conceded to a Spanish company by a decree issued in Madrid, in June, 1865. One of the motives, in discussing the subject of public education, gives a striking contrast between the free schools of Cuba and those of New York. A joint stock company was being organized at Havana for the purpose of erecting a building consisting of four stories, the first of which is to be devoted to stores, the second to a Cuban museum, the third to a theatre and the fourth to a hotel.

Baron Beaulieu, the new Envoy of the King of the Belgians, was yesterday received in his official capacity at the Executive Mansion by President Johnson. The President, in response to the speech of the Minister, congratulated him on the present peaceful condition of Belgium, and expressed a hope for an increase of the friendship now existing between his government and our own.

Orders have been issued for the discontinuance of the Military District of East Tennessee and for the dismantling of a number of the forts comprised in the defenses of Washington.

The question of the constitutionality of the test oath of the new constitution of Missouri is now before the United States Supreme Court on the appeal from decisions of the courts of that State of Rev. Dr. Cummings, a Catholic clergyman, and Mr. Garscha, a lawyer, who were fined and excluded from the exercise of their professional functions for refusal to subscribe to said oath.

The Civil Rights Bill—Its Probable Approval by the President.

The Civil Rights bill, as amended by the House of Representatives, was on Thursday last agreed to by the Senate—yeas 30, nays 7—so that it only needs the signature of the President to become a law of the land. The question naturally recurs, will the President sign the bill? As we can find in it nothing conflicting with the constitution as it now stands, and nothing in conflict with the declared opinions and policy of President Johnson, we have no doubt that he will approve the measure.

The bill provides, first section, "that all persons born in the United States and not subjects to any foreign Power, excluding Indians not taxed, are hereby declared to be citizens of the United States; and such citizens of every race and color, without regard to any previous condition of slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall have the same right in every State and Territory to make and enforce contracts, to sue and be sued, to purchase, lease, sell, hold and convey real and personal property, and to the full and equal benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of person and property, as are enjoyed by white citizens; and shall be subject to like punishments, pains and penalties, and to none other, any law, statute, ordinance, regulation or custom to the contrary notwithstanding." This is the cream of the bill. The other sections, in the powers and duties conferred upon the District and Circuit Courts of the United States, the President, the Freedmen's Bureau, &c., simply provide the machinery for the practical enforcement of the measure by the general government.

In a word, this bill, in regard to his civil rights, places the black man throughout the United States upon the same footing with the white man, and furnishes ample facilities for the enforcement of the law everywhere by the executive, judicial and military authorities of the United States. This is a tremendous transformation of the old order of things, when it was decreed from the Supreme Court by Chief Justice Taney that the negro, bond or free, was not an American citizen, and had "no rights which the white man was bound to respect." But this decision we find under the constitution as it was, when these civil disabilities of the African race were accepted or tolerated by all departments of the government as necessary to the protection of the Southern institution of African slavery. With the abolition of this institution, the foundation upon which all these distinctions rested, they too are all swept away. Under the constitution as it is slavery is abolished and interdicted over all the States and Territories, and Congress has "the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

But does the power to enforce the freedom of the blacks involve the power to enforce their equal civil rights as citizens over the legislation of the several States? It seems to us that such is the scope of this constitutional amendment. Take away slavery, and as there is no color in the constitution, all men of every color stand upon the same level as citizens of the United States. The enforcement of this amendment, therefore, abolishing slavery, involves the power to enforce this equality in civil rights. Upon this subject it follows that not only are all the old slave codes and black laws of the South abolished, but that the reconstructive legislation of the late rebel States, from Virginia to Texas, embracing one system of laws for the whites, and another for the blacks, must all go by the board. Does this interfere with the reconstruction policy of President Johnson? We think not. On the contrary, it relieves him of a vast amount of troublesome work in the protection of the civil rights of the freedmen.

This Civil Rights bill we regard, accordingly, as a practical, just and beneficent measure, and one which the President will cheerfully approve. It does not touch the question of negro suf-

frage, and it does not provide for the encouragement of laziness among the Southern blacks and white refugees by inviting them to laugh and grow fat upon the public treasury. The President is entitled to great credit in bringing Congress from the vagaries of its Reconstruction Committee to this practical bit of legislation, and with its approval we dare say the radical scheme of the continued exclusion of the late rebel States for several years to come will soon be found to be utterly out of the question. Under the impression, from the reasons indicated, that this Civil Rights bill will be approved, we know of no good and sufficient reason why, with this law in force, there should be any further delay in admitting the loyal members elected to Congress from the lately rebellious States that have ratified the great constitutional amendment.

The National Currency Bureau and the Treasury.

The letter of Comptroller Clarke, criticising the official reports and the course of the Secretary of the Treasury, has developed a very singular state of affairs at the national capital. It reveals, however, only what has been for some time past known to exist—a direct antagonistic policy between those two financial officers of the government. One is in favor of contraction, and asks for legislation which will enable him to control the money market and carry his views into practice; while the other is opposed to any such legislation, or the adoption of any arbitrary measures to secure the resumption of specie payments. It is from this disagreement that the correspondence between Secretary McCulloch and Comptroller Clarke originated. The former was appealing to Congress for the passage of a bill that would confer upon him unlimited power, both in exchanging one class of bonds for another and the retirement of the Treasury notes of all descriptions, and also in negotiating loans both at home and abroad. This was the measure which the Secretary proposed to use to carry out his contraction ideas and secure a return to a specie basis. This measure Comptroller Clarke strongly opposed. Secretary McCulloch ascertaining this fact, wrote a note to Mr. Clarke, stating that he had been informed that he (Mr. Clarke) was opposing the Loan bill and advocated a policy contrary to that which the Treasury Department was laboring to enforce. In conclusion, the Secretary requested the Comptroller to favor him with his views, either in person or in writing, in the hope that in so doing they might be able to agree upon one and the same policy, and act together in harmony. To this note Comptroller Clarke replied on the 24th of February at some length, giving the substance of his reasons for opposing the Loan bill. Secretary McCulloch subsequently denied some of the facts stated by Mr. Clarke, and the result is the rejoinder of the latter—published by us a day or two since—which has proved to be the financial sensation of the hour. It appears, however, from the explanation of Mr. Hooper in debate in Congress, that the Comptroller was in error in his statements, in his assertions in reference to the Secretary's report.

The correspondence has developed an anomaly in affairs at Washington. That there should be an open rupture between the two principal financial officers of the government, and both retain their places, is looked upon as extraordinary. It has been generally supposed that the Comptroller of the Currency was a subordinate officer of the Secretary of the Treasury, and amenable to him. That the Secretary should retain a person in office under him who is openly opposed to his policy is looked upon as mysterious. But when we come to examine the bill creating the bureau and office of Comptroller of the Currency we find that he is not a subordinate officer of the Treasury, but holds an independent position, responsible, in fact, only to Congress. His official reports and communications are made, not to the Secretary, as those of the heads of bureaus in that department are; nor are they made to the President, as is the case with the members of the Cabinet, but to Congress direct. There is no official power between him and Congress; no provision for revision, save with the lawmaking power. The appointment, it is true, is made by the President, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury; but when once appointed no removal can take place except upon a written statement of the reasons, which shall be satisfactory to Congress.

With the present temper of Congress it is doubtful if the President will be able to furnish reasons which Congress will deem satisfactory. We cannot therefore fail to look upon the precedent established in creating this bureau as detrimental to the interests of the government, and a serious mistake. It is the commencement of the system of disintegration which has brought all the trouble, corruption and profligacy in our present city government. It is opening the doors to the same evils that we have experienced in this metropolis, and the first step towards a similar state of affairs in the national government. The bureau is a creation of ex-Secretary Chase, and was adopted by Congress at the time that the majority of the Senate sided with Chase against President Lincoln. It was no doubt purposely made an independent branch of the government to subvert the political interests of the present Chief Justice and enable him the better to make the national bank system a grand political power to advance his claims for the Presidency. Hence it was removed from all danger of interference on the part of the President or Secretary of the Treasury. Just as the independent bureaus were created in our city government to advance private ambition, so was this to subvert private ambition, instead of the interests of the country. One of the first fruits is now seen in the disagreement of two financial officers, and want of harmony in the executive departments. This evil should be corrected at once, or still more serious and alarming results may follow.

RAID UPON INFANT VEALS.—The extensive seizures of unwholesome meat, or what has been termed "bob" veal, is evidence of commendable vigilance on the part of officials which we hope will be encouraged. Our people have but a poor conception of the amount of this kind of meat that is every year sent to this city and distributed for food. Some of the farmers in the river counties, and even back in the interior, along the line of the railroads, have been in the habit of killing their calves when only twelve hours old and delivering them to parties to bring to this city. They manage to secure five dollars per head for all they furnish in this manner. Seizures have been made in this city during the spring

months for several years past, but we believe never quite as extensively as at the present. This fact either shows greater vigilance on the part of our officials, or else that there is a more extensive business done in the "bob" veal line than heretofore. If the latter is the correct version, then we are fortunate in being prepared to meet this effort to flood the city with this unwholesome stuff. It is, however, a somewhat singular coincidence that the rural gentlemen in the Legislature, in their anxiety to reform and purify this city, should have adopted a measure to accomplish that reformation, which in its application strikes first at the deleterious practice of their own constituents. A few more reform measures will no doubt throw additional light upon the impositions practised upon us from this source, and enable our citizens to protect themselves. But, in the meantime, we trust that the Board of Health, or police, or whoever is looking after these "infant veals," will continue their search and prevent their being distributed throughout the city. This is the only way to put a stop to that kind of trade.

St. Patrick's Day.

The festival of the patron saint of Ireland has always been observed in this city with a great deal of earnestness as well as a very large display of pageantry, the most commendable feature of which has been the order and sobriety which prevailed, and among the component parts of the processions there were none more beautiful than the immense bodies of the Father Mathew Temperance Societies. In view of the indirect influence which the Fenian movement will undoubtedly bring to bear upon the celebration of to-day, we may expect to see more enthusiasm and larger numbers of participants than ever. The Fenians themselves will, we understand, not be represented as a body, having resolved to make no display of their numerical strength, and probably finding that they have work enough to do in their headquarters at this critical juncture.

The Irish people regard St. Patrick and his natal day as we do Washington and his birthday. St. Patrick, whose origin is not very clearly accounted for—historians being divided in opinion as to whether he was born in Gaul or in Scotia—was the first great ameliorator of the Irish race. How well his labors as a propagandist of the Christian faith and the precursor of a higher civilization have been appreciated, we have evidence in the veneration in which his name is held after such a lapse of time. While the patron saints of other nations are almost forgotten, and many of their heroes are neglected, the memory of this Christian bishop and civilizer is remembered all over the world. This may be accounted for in part by the tenacity with which the Celtic race cling to their traditional history, and their gratitude to the man who led them out of the darkness of paganism. It may be accounted for, perhaps, in a measure also by the fact that it was from the Irish church established by St. Patrick that many of the missionaries came who spread learning and religion over a large part of Europe, and founded colleges and monasteries where the most valuable relics of ancient literature were translated and preserved. In this way his name and his popularity became widespread.

It is somewhat curious that, while the titular saints of most countries were of the military order, men who fought with dragons and combated giants, and so forth—the famous "Seven Champions of Christendom," to wit—the patron saint of the greatest fighting people in Europe should be a man of peace, whose highest deeds of valor were converting pagans and banishing reptiles. St. Patrick was evidently not a Fenian, for the Fenians were of Phoenician origin, while the saint was a Gael; but had he lived until this day he might have been found in Union square, only for his religious scruples.

However, turning from St. Patrick of a thousand years ago to the celebration of his birthday in the metropolis of America to-day, we have no doubt that it will be a very imposing spectacle, and whatever increase there may be in numbers or enthusiasm may be attributed to the exciting circumstances of the times. That it will be an orderly, sober and respectable demonstration we have sufficient guarantee in all former celebrations of a like character.

PRIVILEGES OF LEGISLATORS.—A city contemporary is excessively severe upon Judge Scrugham, of Brooklyn, for postponing a libel suit in which an ex-member of the Legislature is plaintiff and the editor of a Brooklyn paper the defendant. The case has once been postponed at the request of the respondent, and it seems but a fair thing for the Judge to postpone it again upon the motion of the plaintiff, if any reasonable grounds therefor should be presented. A number of the witnesses in the case are members of the Legislature; and we hold that the Judge was justified in deferring the case, if he designed to respect the privileges of legislators, who are exempt from arrest and should be free from attachment, as witnesses, while in the exercise of their legislative functions. The people of the State pay legislators a certain sum per session; and if the time of members is to be wasted in vexatious lawsuits, that can be tried at any time; and in attendance upon courts, subject to the courts' delays, and the procrastination and subtleties of counsel, it would not be difficult for a combination of evil disposed persons, upon trivial pretexts, to subpoena witnesses from both houses, and, by preventing a quorum from assembling, impede the operations of the State government. We wish there were no stronger grounds for complaint against our elective judges, particularly the police justices, than the one preferred against Judge Scrugham.

JOHN BELL INCLINED TO PAY UP.—We see by recent advices from Europe that Lord Clarendon is now anxious to reopen the Alabama discussion and come to some definite settlement. A short time ago the noble Lord declared that this subject was "exhausted"—as his side of it was—and his anxiety to discuss it again simply means that, in view of the possible contingencies of the Fenian question, John Bull is pretty nearly ready to pay our little bill in hard cash. But, on the whole, we see no reason for pressing our claims just at present, and we cannot allow Mr. Bull to settle with us so soon. He is a good debtor; he has plenty of real and personal estate in all parts of the world, and as our mortgage upon his property brings us very good interest and can be foreclosed at any time we wish, it is merely a matter of prudence on our part not to let him pay us off when we really do not need the

money and could not invest it to such excellent advantage anywhere else.

The Reciprocity Treaty.—The Position of the British North American Provinces.

The Reciprocity treaty expires to-day. Trade between the British North American provinces and the United States has been carried on under this treaty since 1854. By its terms a commercial union practically existed between the two countries, and, as is always the case with such unions, it was most advantageous to the poorer people. Certain privileges in the fisheries on the northeastern coast were accorded to us, and the St. Lawrence was thrown open, and for the Canada and the other provinces enjoyed free trade with a customer always demanding more than they could supply. This commerce was a great source of wealth to the provinces, but they did not appreciate it. They were always declaring that the treaty was not advantageous to them, and on several occasions when its operation was found unequal, and the question of abolishing it was mooted on this side of the line, the provincials were always loud in their declarations that we might abolish it at any time, and that they did not care to retain it. We have recently had a chance to see the sincerity of those declarations. Since the period was fixed for the expiration of this treaty the several provinces have sent delegates to Washington instructed to retain the treaty or get another on any terms. It was even said in the Canadian papers that the delegates were furnished with the means to buy a treaty, and the delegates, thus instructed and prepared, went so far to attain their object, and did so much to keep the benefits of this despised treaty, that their friends at home were made ashamed by the extravagance of their promises. For weeks and months past, moreover, anticipating the expiration of the treaty, all kinds of Canadian products have been rushed over the border with the greatest energy. Very large arrivals of Canadian flour are noted in Boston, and there is great activity in the transmission of Canadian products over Western railroads.

The abrogation of this treaty meets with the hearty approval of the whole people of the United States. By extracts elsewhere it will be seen that the Boards of Trade in Canada fume greatly over our illiberality in this matter; but the dissatisfaction is confined to their side of the border. If the treaty had been equal in its effects—if its abrogation were even a severe blow to our own commerce, the people of the country would be quite ready to accept and endure that blow in order to make an effective discrimination of any sort against the people of the British provinces. Canada and her sister provinces can easily enough forget their acts toward us of the past few years, but it is not the same with the people of the United States. We know that the whole people of the British provinces were our allies, earnest, open, insolent enemies; and while Canada enjoyed a great trade by her generosity—while she enjoyed the exclusive benefits of that trade and grew rich upon it—while, for all commercial purposes, she stood in nearly the same position as a State of this Union, she yet connived at plots, arranged within her territories, for the burning of our cities and the murder of our people; she encouraged the plotters and urged them on, and, even in the very so-called courts of justice, assisted their escape. This is what makes the very word reciprocity, as between Canada and the United States, offensive to our people. We shall get on very well without our part of what was given by the treaty, and the provinces will doubtless make the most of their position by the grand scheme of confederation or otherwise. We would recommend them to try the scheme of confederation. That has in it the promise of making them a respectable power. As they stand they are in all national respects so many nonentities. Confederation will give them a national existence at least. It may make them a British viceroyalty, and sandwich the United States between a monarchy in Canada and one in Mexico. The United States will be amply able to meet any such difficulties when they menace it.

A VOICE FROM THE SOUTH.—A numerous and influential meeting of the citizens of Norfolk, Va., was held a few days since, the Mayor in the chair, at which resolutions were adopted strongly endorsing the restoration policy of President Johnson. In a spirit of reconciliation it was, among other things, resolved:—

That, having in good faith accepted the result of the late contest between the North and the South, we desire that all traces of alienation shall be obliterated, and we cordially invite enterprising men from every State of the American Union to settle among us, assuring them that they will be received as fellow-citizens of our common country, and co-laborers in building up that commercial greatness which we believe our city is destined to attain.

This is the proper spirit, and we hope similar meetings will be held in other portions of the Southern country. A large number of enterprising people in the North are deterred from going South and engaging in the labor of developing the vast resources of that part of the country, in consequence of apprehending that their presence will be unwelcome and that they will be subjected to irritating taunts and insults from the native residents. We do not believe that this feeling prevails to any extent among intelligent communities in the South; and if expression be given to the Southern voice in the manner it has been in Norfolk, much good will accrue to the people of both sections.

PROVISIONAL GOVERNORS OF SOUTHERN STATES.—President Johnson has submitted to Congress a message, communicating information respecting the Provisional Governors of Southern States. The documents make quite a large volume, and embrace the newly formed constitutions, correspondence, local enactments, reports of legislative proceedings, and other official operations of several of the Southern States since the rebellion. The whole matter constitutes a very valuable history of the times, and amply vindicates the policy of the President in his initiative measures of reconstruction and restoration.

SENATOR SUMNER ON CONDUCT.—The resolution reported by Senator Sumner, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, protesting against the action of those European authorities who pardon criminals on condition that they will emigrate to the United States, is well timed. This country is not a Botany Bay. To emigrate to America is an honor, not a punishment. Europe must take charge of its own criminals. If it were not for the fact that the practice against which the Senator protests has been pursued for a long while, we should not have half so much crime in the United States. Let Mr. Sumner's resolution be so amended as to express the indignation excited by the insulting procedure to which it refers, and then be unanimously adopted.